

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of reducing the pH of a servicing fluid comprising:

providing a crosslinked, viscous servicing fluid comprising an acid-releasing degradable material selected from the group consisting of lactides, poly(lactides), glycolides, poly(glycolides), substantially water-insoluble anhydrides, poly(anhydrides), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof;

allowing the acid-releasing degradable material to produce an acid; and

allowing a pH of the servicing fluid to be reduced.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the servicing fluid comprises a fracturing fluid or a gravel packing transport fluid.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the servicing fluid is crosslinked with a crosslinker ~~comprising~~ selected from the group consisting of boric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, sodium diborate and pentaborates, ulexite, colemanite, zirconium lactate, zirconium lactate triethanolamine, zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetylacetonate, and zirconium diisopropylamine lactate, titanium ammonium lactate, titanium triethanolamine, titanium acetylacetonate, aluminum citrate, or aluminum lactate, and combinations thereof.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the servicing fluid de-crosslinks at a pH below about 9.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the acid-releasing degradable material further comprises a solvent.

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 wherein the solvent ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of acetone, propylene carbonate, dipropylglycolmethylether, methylene chloride, isopropyl alcohol, or a combination and combinations thereof.

9. (Currently Amended) A method of fracturing a subterranean formation comprising:

providing a crosslinked, viscous fracturing fluid comprising an acid-releasing degradable material selected from the group consisting of lactides, poly(lactides), glycolides, poly(glycolides), substantially water-insoluble anhydrides, poly(anhydrides), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof;

introducing the fracturing fluid into a subterranean formation at a pressure sufficient to create at least one fracture;

allowing the acid-releasing degradable material to produce an acid;

allowing a pH of the fracturing fluid to be reduced; and

allowing a viscosity of the fracturing fluid to be reduced.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9 wherein the fracturing fluid is crosslinked with a crosslinker ~~comprising~~ selected from the group consisting of boric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, sodium diborate and pentaborates, ulexite, colemanite, zirconium lactate, zirconium lactate triethanolamine, zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetylacetonate, and zirconium diisopropylamine lactate, titanium ammonium lactate, titanium triethanolamine, titanium acetylacetonate, aluminum citrate, or aluminum lactate, and combinations thereof.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the fracturing fluid de-crosslinks at a pH below about 9.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein the acid-releasing degradable material further comprises a solvent.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 wherein the solvent ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of acetone, propylene carbonate, dipropylglycolmethylether, methylene chloride, isopropyl alcohol, or a combination and combinations thereof.

16. (Currently Amended) A method of creating a gravel pack in a well bore comprising:

providing a crosslinked, viscous gravel transport fluid comprising gravel and an acid-releasing degradable material selected from the group consisting of lactides, poly(lactides),

glycolides, poly(glycolides), substantially water-insoluble anhydrides, poly(anhydrides), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof;

introducing the gravel transport fluid into a portion of a well bore so as to create a gravel pack;

allowing the acid-releasing degradable material to produce an acid;

allowing a pH of the gravel transport fluid to be reduced; and

allowing a viscosity of the gravel transport fluid to be reduced.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16 wherein the gravel transport fluid is crosslinked with a crosslinker ~~comprising~~ selected from the group consisting of boric acid, disodium octaborate tetrahydrate, sodium diborate and pentaborates, ulexite, colemanite, zirconium lactate, zirconium lactate triethanolamine, zirconium carbonate, zirconium acetylacetonate, ~~and~~ zirconium diisopropylamine lactate, titanium ammonium lactate, titanium triethanolamine, titanium acetylacetonate, aluminum citrate, ~~or~~ aluminum lactate, and combinations thereof.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the gravel transport fluid de-crosslinks at a pH below about 9.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Original) The method of claim 16 wherein the acid-releasing degradable material further comprises a solvent.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the solvent ~~comprises~~ is selected from the group consisting of acetone, propylene carbonate, dipropylglycolmethylether, methylene chloride, isopropyl alcohol, ~~or a combination~~ and combinations thereof.

23.-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) A servicing fluid composition comprising a crosslinked, viscous fluid and an acid-releasing degradable material wherein the acid-releasing degradable material is selected from the group consisting of lactides, poly(lactides), glycolides, poly(glycolides), substantially water-insoluble anhydrides, poly(anhydrides), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof ~~comprises a lactide, poly(lactic acid) or a blend thereof.~~

28.-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Currently Amended) A servicing fluid composition comprising

_____ a crosslinked, viscous fluid,
_____ an acid-releasing degradable material selected from the group consisting of lactides, poly(lactides), glycolides, poly(glycolides), substantially water-insoluble anhydrides, poly(anhydrides), derivatives thereof, and combinations thereof, and
_____ a solvent ~~and wherein the solvent comprises~~ selected from the group consisting of acetone, propylene carbonate, dipropylglycolmethylether, methylene chloride, isopropyl alcohol, or a combination and combinations thereof.